

Washington, DC - This morning, members of a Congressional Task Force under the jurisdiction of the Committee on House Administration voted to proceed with a formal investigation of the contested 2006 election in Florida's 13th Congressional District. The task force, Chaired by Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez (TX-20), also unanimously voted to summon the assistance of the Government Accountability Office to conduct the formal investigation.

The resolution, proposed by Rep. Zoe Lofgren (CA-16), requests the GAO's assistance "to design and propose testing protocols to determine the reliability of the equipment used in the FL-13 election, taking into account recommendations by the contestant and contestee."

Congressman Gonzalez issued the following statement on Task Force's meeting:

"After much deliberation and a close examination of the facts surrounding the contested election, the launch of a formal investigation was deemed necessary and appropriate," said Gonzalez. "I am confident that the GAO's assistance in this investigation will result in a thorough and comprehensive investigation, under parameters set by this Task Force, and will be conducted in a transparent and timely manner," he added.

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